IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ for operating cooperating, differing devices, particularly of a plant with different controls, the method comprising:

controlling the [[same]] differing devices through control sequences and in particular with different control clocks, wherein the clocks of the different controls are interpolated on a common system clock and [[that]] the control sequences are synchronized in at least one synchronizing device, wherein through the operational units a modified system clock is proposed to a coordinating device, said coordinating device accepting or refusing the modified system clock.

2. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1, wherein operational units of the plant are provided with control signals after synchronization following a further interpolation.

3. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1, wherein the different control clocks of the different controls are selected according to a relationship

$$IPO_i = n_i \cdot t_{Tick},\ n_i = 1,2,3,....$$

in which t_{Tick} is an integral multiple of a clock of hardware used for performing the method.

4. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1, wherein the interpolation takes place on a common system clock in a common interpolating device for a control.

5. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1, wherein the axes of the devices are coordinated.

6. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1, wherein synchronization and/or coordination is performed in real time.

7 - 8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to claim [[7]] 1, wherein for the modified system clock the following applies:

$$t_{Tick}' = 1/n' \cdot t_{Tick},\ n' = 1,2,3,....$$

10. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to claim [[8]] 1, wherein following the clock change, a plurality of functional units continue to be operated according to the old system clock.

11. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1, wherein in each case a plurality of devices of a specific device type is operated.

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~Apparatus~~ for operating cooperating, differing devices, particularly of a plant, with different controls controlling the [[same]] differing devices through control sequences, particularly with different control clocks, the apparatus comprising: ~~wherein~~

at least one common interpolating device for the controls for interpolating the clocks of the different controls on a common system clock and at least one synchronizing device for synchronizing the control sequences, ~~is included~~ wherein the synchronizing and/or coordinating device is constructed for modifying the system clock on request by at least one operational unit and for the modified system clock the following applies:

$$t_{Tick}' = 1/n' \cdot t_{Tick}, \; n' = 1,2,3,....$$

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~Apparatus~~ according to claim 12, wherein at least one further interpolating device for interpolating control signals for operational units of the devices following synchronization is included.

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~Apparatus~~ according to claim 12, wherein a coordinating device for coordinating the control sequences is included.

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~Apparatus~~ according to claim 12, wherein the synchronizing and/or coordinating devices are real timable.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~Apparatus~~ according to claim 12, wherein a non-real timable component for modifying the settings of the synchronizing and/or coordinating device is included.

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~Apparatus~~ according to claim 12, wherein at least the synchronizing and/or coordinating device and a plurality of controls are constructed as programming devices implementable on a common computer unit.

18. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~Apparatus~~ according to claim 12, wherein further devices can be connected during operation.

19. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~Apparatus~~ according to claim 12, wherein the common interpolating device is constructed for the interpolation of control clocks in the form

$$IPO_i = n_i \cdot t_{Tick},\ n_i = 1,2,3,...$$

in which t_{Tick} is an integral multiple of a clock of hardware used.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~Apparatus~~ according to claim [[20]] 12, wherein the synchronizing and/or coordinating device has an evaluating device for evaluating the system load and its result is vital for the modification of the system clock.